

common just north of our district in the neighbourhood of Ahmedabad. (Saw a duck and a drake in a large mixed flock of duck on a tank near Ahmedabad, March 20, 1940). Saw a drake and two ducks at Pariaj, Nov. 29, 1941. One duck shot at Gobhlaj, Dec. 24, 1942.

Spotbill (*Anas poecilorhyncha* Forster)—Fairly common. A few to be seen at any time as long as tanks are well filled.

Gadwall (*Chaulelasmus streperus* Linn.)—Common.

Wigeon (*Mareca penelope* Linn.)—Rather rare. A few are seen and shot each season, but never in any numbers.

Common Teal (*Nettion crecca* Linn.)—Common; however, not as plentiful as blue-winged teal.

Pintail (*Dafila acuta* Linn.)—Common. Difficult to shoot as they are the first to rise to a great height and move off to other waters.

Blue-winged Teal (*Querquedula querquedula* Linn.)—Very common—perhaps the most plentiful in the district, with the white-eyed pochard a close second in numbers.

Shoveller (*Spatula clypeata* Linn.)—Common.

Red Crested Pochard (*Netta rufina* Pallas)—Rather rare. Only seen in small numbers in some seasons.

Pochard (*Nyroca ferina* Linn.)—Common.

White-eyed Pochard (*Nyroca rufa* Linn.)—Very common.

NADIAD,

HERSCHEL C. ALDRICH, M.D.

KAIRA DISTRICT,

September 20, 1943.

XIII.—THE ARABIAN LARGE-CRESTED SEA TERN (*STERNA BERGII VELOX*) BREEDING OFF THE SIND COAST.

Hitherto the nearest known breeding ground of this magnificent tern has been recorded as Astola, an island off the Mekran coast near Ormara.

For the past three years, if not longer, fairly large colonies of the Arabian Large Crested Sea Tern have been breeding on suitable islands off the Sind coast at the mouth of the Kajhar creek, which lies about 10 miles, as the crow flies, west of the Seer Creek, separating Sind from Kutch.

In May 1934 while looking for favourable flamingo breeding ground I came across numbers of this tern 'packing', a sure sign of breeding, on sand banks near Kajhar creek but it was not till June 1941 that I was able to send out a trusted man, who returned with several very 'high' birds and about a dozen fresh eggs, all that were unbroken out of a basket which contained about 60 eggs. The following year I secured about a score of eggs which were taken on the 14th June and this year I received 64 eggs taken on the 20th June. The man reported that hundreds of birds were breeding and that many eggs were taken yearly for food by *mohanas* from Kutch.

The eggs were laid in mere scrapes in the sand. The nests contained either 1 or 2 eggs, all of which were perfectly fresh. The eggs as a series differ in no way from those taken at Astola off the Mekran coast.

KARACHI,
July 20, 1943.

K. R. EATES,
Indian Police,
F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

XIV.—THE HATCHING OF A MUGGER (*CROCODILUS PALUSTRIS*).

I am writing to you of a recent unusual experience I had while in company on shikar with Captain I. S. Durrad, also of the staff of this School, as I think it may be of interest.

In May this year we were camped at Devikop forest bungalow about 20 miles from Hubli on the Hubli-Yellapur Road (Kanara). Below the bungalow there was quite a large jhil which does not dry up during the summer. Between the bungalow and the water and about 70 yds. from the water there was a small experimental teak plantation. The Forest Department were working in this plantation putting in teak seeds. One of the coolies engaged on this work was digging when he came across a nest of about 20 crocodile eggs. We opened one and found a fully formed young crocodile which would probably have been born in a few days. As a matter of interest I kept one. On return to Belgaum I put this egg into a cup on a shelf in my sitting room and forgot about it. I had been back here three weeks and was having my breakfast one morning when my bearer came and said there were noises coming from the egg. This was quite correct, and I realised there was a live crocodile in the egg. I then put the egg in a biscuit tin and placed it in a warm place; the noises continued for several days and a very small crack appeared in the shell. When I saw this I took a knife and removed some of the shell. I then put the egg back into the tin and the next morning had a look but it was still in the same condition. I had another look an hour later and the crocodile was born fully formed and full of life. He is now in his natural surroundings.

OFFICERS' TRAINING SCHOOL,
BELGAUM,
June 8, 1943.

C. BONE.
Conductor.

XV.—SPECIFIC IDENTITY OF THE 'RECORD MAHSEER'.

In the April issue of the *Journal* (Vol. xliii, No. 4, pp. 662, 663, 2 pls., 1943), Lt.-Col. R. W. Burton gave some interesting details, with excellent photographs, of two large specimens of Mahseer, 119 lbs. and 110 lbs. in weight respectively. Both were